

REMARKS

In the present application, claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 1-16 are rejected. As a result of this response, claims 1-16 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, and 16 as being anticipated by Bork (6,255,800). Specifically, with regards to claim 1, the Examiner asserted that Bork teaches “a repository (Figure 15, element 46), for a plurality of objects comprising: a body for supporting simultaneously a plurality of objects including a mobile phone and at least one other object (Figure 15, mobile phone 52 and coins or car keys can be put on top pf the box 46 which will be supported by the box 46); wireless communication means (Figure 15, element 44) for communicating with at least one of the plurality of objects (Figure 15, mobile phone 52) to transfer data therefrom (Col 6, line 6-13); and a user interface (Figure 16, between element 54 to element 45) responsive to the wireless communication means (Figure 16, element 46) for providing information to a user (Figure 16, element 54) received in the transferred data (element 6, line 6-13).

Applicants respectfully assert that the Examiner’s characterization of the teachings of Bork is in error.

Claim 1 recites:

1. A repository, for a plurality of objects, comprising:
a body for supporting simultaneously a plurality of objects including a mobile phone and at least one other object;
wireless communication means for communicating with at least one of the plurality of objects to transfer data therefrom; and
a user interface responsive to the wireless communication means for providing information to a user received in the transferred data.

Bork discloses, generally, a mobile device charging cradle to enable short distance wireless communication between a personal computer and at least one other

wireless communication enabled electronic device. The charging cradle in Bork is combined with a wireless transceiver. The cradle, when connected to a personal computer, allows the personal computer to communicate wirelessly with other communication devices.

As noted above, the Examiner alleges that in figure 15 “mobile phone 52 and coins or car keys can be put on top of the box 46 which will be supported by the box 46”. Applicants respectfully disagree. In fact, Bork does not teach anything other than a mobile phone should be supported by the cradle 46. Further, Bork does not teach or disclose anything to suggest that the dimensions of the cradle would be suitable for supporting anything in addition to the mobile phone as shown. The cradle 46 in Bork is used to provide wireless functionality to a personal computer and to charge a single mobile phone. The cradle 46 is most emphatically not a repository for supporting simultaneously a plurality of objects including a mobile phone and at least one other object as claimed.

The Examiner further asserted, as noted above, that element 44 of Bork provides “wireless communication means for communicating with at least one of the plurality of objects”. Element 44 is a wireless transceiver. In Bork the wireless transceiver 44 provides the personal computer with wireless communication functionality when the cradle is connected to the personal computer. Wireless transceiver 44 is not used for communicating with the mobile phone in the cradle 46. In fact, Bork discloses that when the cradle is attached to a personal computer, the computer can communicate wirelessly “whether or not another RF communication enabled portable electronic device is coupled to cradle 46” (col.5, lines 56-58). The only data transfer from the cradle to the mobile phone occurs via data connector 38 in the cradle. This data transfer is not wireless. There is no disclosure of any other means of data transfer between the cradle and the supported mobile phone. Therefore, Bork does not disclose “wireless communication means for communicating with at least one of the plurality of objects to transfer data therefrom”, as recited in claim 1.

Lastly, as noted above, the Examiner asserted that Bork discloses “a user interface (Figure 16, between element 54 to element 45)”. The Applicant can find no reference to element 45 in the description or the drawings. There is no disclosure in Bork of a

repository with a user interface. Furthermore, as there is no data transferred from the mobile phone to the cradle in Bork, there can be no disclosure of “a user interface responsive to the wireless communication means for providing information to a user received in transferred data” as recited in claim 1.

Independent claim 1 is therefore novel over Bork. Independent claim 16 is novel over Bork for similar reasons to those set out above for claim 1. Independent claim 11 is novel over Bork for the reasons set out above. Claim 11 is further novel over Bork as Bork fails to disclose a “repository comprising a display for displaying information received from the mobile phone”. Likewise, as claim 16 recites a repository having “a body having a support surface for supporting simultaneously a plurality of objects including a mobile telephone and at least one other object”, for the reasons discussed above, claim 16 is in condition for allowance. As all of claims 2-3, 5-7, 9 and 10 depend upon claim 1, they are likewise in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 4, 8, and 11 as being unpatentable over Bork in view of Strierner (20060022796). Specifically, the Examiner asserted that it would have been obvious, with regards to claim 4, “to use the teaching of a repository wherein the wireless communication means comprises an RFID detector, as taught by Strierner, in the Bork device in order to identify the student to the network server 100”. The Examiner asserted, with regard to claim 8, that it would have been obvious “to use the teaching of a repository, further comprising a memory; and a processor for controlling a display of the user interface to display the transferred data, as taught by Strierner, in the Bork device”. The Examiner asserted, with regard to claim 11, that it would have been obvious “to use the teaching of a repository comprising a display information received from the mobile phone, as taught by streamer, in the Bork device in order to allow system administrators and users to communicate with other device.”

Applicants respectfully note that claims 4 and 8 depend upon claim 1. Claim 1 is allowable for the reasons discussed above. As a combination of the teachings of Bork and Strierner, such a combination neither suggested nor deemed appropriate, fails to

correct the deficiencies of Bork discussed above, claims 4 and 8 are in condition for allowance.

With regards to claim 11, Applicants assert that there is no motivation to combine the teachings of Bork and Stierner, such a combination neither suggested nor deemed appropriate, as asserted by the Examiner.

As noted above, the Examiner asserted that independent claim 11 is obvious in view of Bork and Strierner. Strierner discloses, generally, a modular school computer system and method that includes wireless hubs that communicate with electronic devices carried or worn by students and teaches. A student module may contain a display.

The Examiner asserted that Strierner discloses “a repository comprising a display for displaying information received from the mobile phone (Figure 24, element 2450)”.

The Merriam-Webster Online dictionary states that a repository is “a place, room, or container where something is deposited or stored”. Figure 24 of Strierner discloses a ‘student module’ 2400 that contains a display 2450. The student module of figure 24 cannot be interpreted to be the claimed repository as it is not a ‘container’ where a mobile phone is stored. Furthermore, the display 2450 is not used for displaying data received from a mobile phone.

In addition, there exists no motivation to combine the teachings of Bork and Stierner because Bork relates to a method of providing a personal computer with wireless communication functionality via a mobile phone charging cradle and Strierner relates to a wireless computer system for a school and not wireless communication between a cradle and a mobile phone held in the cradle so that information is transferred from the phone to the cradle for presentation to a user by the cradle. Any such combination must be as a result of impermissible hindsight. Furthermore, as Strierner fails to cure the deficiencies of Bork, any combination of the documents, such a combination neither suggested nor deemed appropriate, would still fail to disclose all of the features of the claimed invention. For all of these reasons, independent claim 11 is therefore non-obvious in view of the prior art and is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner rejected claims 12-15 as being unpatentable over Bork in view of Mortenson et al. (20050046567). Applicants note that claim 1, upon which claims 12-15

depend is in condition for allowance and, as a result, claims 12-15 are likewise in condition for allowance. Applicants further note that Mortensen discloses, generally, a container and contents monitoring system that includes a device, a reader, a server a software backbone and a receptacle for housing a plurality of sensors. The device communicates with a plurality of sensors and the reader in order to determine the condition of the container and its contents. The reader transmits the information from the device to the server. The device determines if a container condition has occurred based on at least one sensor located on or in the container.

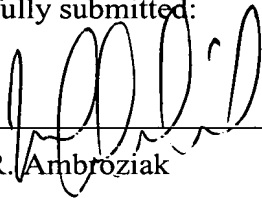
It is therefore evident that Mortensen fails to rectify the deficiencies of Bork and Striemer such that, even if all three documents were combined, they would still not fall within the scope of the claimed invention. For these reasons, claims 12-15 are in condition for allowance.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

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It is submitted that the claims herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted:



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